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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1903.

American Humor.

Are We Deficient in Humorous Literature?

Somebody has started a discussion on American humor, and made the charge that our literature is deficient in this element as compared with English literature. Where, it is asked, are our Thackerays, Dickens, Goldsmiths, Addisons, Fieldings, Lambes? This worried individual has fallen into the common error of comparing as equals things which are not equal. American literature cannot be said to have properly begun until about 1825. Before that time our population was too small and too busy, and there was too little money in the country, to allow the development of anything like literature. This leaves a period of a little more than seventy-five years in which we are required to produce a number of humorists equal to England's company of authors drawn from nearly two centuries. Thackeray, Dickens, and Lamb are the only English humorists who can properly be brought into such a discussion. Moreover, the population of American cities, all taken together, was until a comparatively recent period far less than that of London alone, and London has produced or educated most of the great English writers until very lately.

As to humorists, we have Mark Twain, who, for pure original fun, is certainly equal to anything in English literature; we have Irving, who will certainly stand comparison with Lamb; we have Oliver Wendell Holmes, who, as a punster, equals Hood, and in some other respects surpasses him; and if we have no Dickens or Thackeray, the multitude of minor writers of American fiction are possessed of various sorts of humor to a degree not observable among English writers of the same grade. There are, in fact, jokes floating about the country in the columns of newspapers every day, which are as funny as much of the humor in what is called literature; yet, because they are so numerous and so freely produced, they are forgotten.

New York and the Drama.

The Difference Between the Taste of New York and That of Other Cities.

A prominent theatrical manager is quoted as saying that the taste of New York is in certain essentials different from that of the rest of the country. Most of us know that, but as it is somewhat rare to hear a New York theatrical man admit it, the statement is interesting. The general tone taken by authorities in that city has been that New York knew what the rest of the country ought to like, and that the quicker the rest of the country was in coming up to the standard the better it would be.

This manager makes three points, all of which are justified by reason. He says that New York does not like Shakespeare and will not support a production of one of his plays; that it approves plays of the musical comedy order, such as London has sent over here several times; that it admires plays of a cynically immoral tone, purporting to present the life of "smart society," while the people of other cities have not been educated up to the intelligence required to appreciate such plays.

No one who has watched the course of the drama for the last five or six years can help seeing that this man has hit the nail exactly on the head. New York does like the musical comedies and cynical society dramas better than Shakespeare, and makes them pay better. The rest of the country, however, still has a sneaking admiration for Shakespeare, even when produced without the "magnificent production" accessories which are now deemed necessary; and a very large part of the theater-going population like a play like "The Little Minister," "Rip Van Winkle," or such simple and joyous dramas as Sol Smith Russell used to produce, better than society plays in which clothes and innumerable are the principal features, or productions in which hashed-over music, doubtful ballets, and stale jokes are the chief ingredients. These things being so, is there not a

chance for some enterprising manager to make money in a modest way by attending to the wants of the hinterland and allowing New York to run its own shows for a little while? Because New York takes to hot tamales and wood alcohol, must there be no more cakes and ale for the rest of us?

Secretary Root's Report.

The Radical Work Done During His Administration.

Secretary Root's report is characteristically terse and to the point, and it is to be regretted that this is the last report which he will ever be called upon to make. He has been, from the first day of his administration, the right man in the right place. The department needed radical changes, and he was the man to make them. It needed a man who could see what was to be done and do it without delay, and he was that sort of man. His successor will find work enough to do, but not the peculiar problems which Secretary Root encountered at the beginning of his administration.

The War Department of any government is one of the most difficult to handle. It is liable to corruption, to the evils of red tape, to favoritism, to numerous other dangers. In this country the problems of the War Department are complicated by the presence in our population of a large element which apparently does not believe there ought to be any War Department. The spokesmen of this element are forever inveighing against what they call the dangers of the military ideal. They apparently think that the country can prepare for war on the principle enunciated in that old nursery rhyme about learning to swim without going near the water. Army men know, of course, that in case of inevitable war with some foreign country, or even such guerrilla skirmishes as the one in Cuba, nine-tenths of the loss of money and men could be prevented by proper discipline beforehand, but the people cannot be made to think so, and therefore money is not forthcoming for appropriations. War is one of the most expensive businesses in which any country can engage, but adequate preparation reduces the expense to a considerable degree. This is a fact which the constituents of many Congressmen do not understand.

Another difficulty which any Secretary of War must encounter is real political favoritism, complicated by charges of political favoritism. Ever since the civil war the army has been considered more or less a playground for politicians, and at intervals the pets of prominent statesmen have been tumbled into this playground in bunches. It has not been good for the morale of the department. The results of a long course of this treatment were among the problems encountered by Secretary Root, and he had also, of course, to risk charges of favoritism made when he promoted anybody at the expense of anybody else. All these things, however, apparently disturbed him but little. He knew what had to be done, and he desired to do that thing, without regard to anybody's opinion.

One of the Secretary's strongest characteristics, and one which has, perhaps, contributed most to his success, is his ability to hold his peace about the affairs of the department. Never once has he been tempted to enter into fruitless discussion. He has known how to make radical changes without talking about it. He has, in short, devoted himself to the good of the department rather than to posing as its reformer, and the results are gratifying.

A Boston paper criticizes Booker Washington's advice to cure the blues by sympathizing with somebody else, and explains that sympathy is not so good for the suffering as stern advice to be up and doing. That is all very well, but Kipling once wrote a verse which ran like this:—
The toad beneath the harrow
Knows exactly where each tooth-point goes;
The butterfly upon the road
Preaches contentment to that toad.
The toad and butterfly business is flourishing enough as it is, without any encouragement.

The Japanese diet is considering the question of bear with a gravity which is increased by the fact that the Japanese are mostly Buddhists and vegetarians.

The "New York Press" suggests that all owners of hotels and apartment houses should put in the halls a big sign reading, "What Would You Do in Case of Fire?" If the apartment houses were like some we know, and the fire were in the furnace, the inhabitants would hold a praise meeting.

Philadelphia is about to have an attack of lichen; but it might be worse. If lichen were living in this country he would write a play on Philadelphia's water supply.

The next thing anybody knows, Panama will be begging Uncle Sam to lend her a stocking to hang up for Christmas.

Press Comment on President's Message

The message is, for the most part, as usual, taken up with a review of the work of the Government for the last year. Aside from Panama this involves few matters of striking interest. Foreign and domestic affairs have run the prosperous course becoming to a successful administration of a nation happily situated.—New York Tribune.

The time will come when just-minded men will wish that that part of President Roosevelt's message in which he explains and defends his course upon the Isthmus of Panama might be expunged from the national records. The sentiment he avows and the principles he lays down are flagrantly at war with a great, and, until this time, a growing body of sound national tradition, and with rules of conduct in international relations which have gained for us the respect of the world's lawgivers.—New York Times.

There is no part of President Roosevelt's third annual message which should receive more careful consideration by Congress, by the enlightened press, by the country, and by American citizens of all parties, than the comparatively inconspicuous recommendation which is tucked away in the midst of his fearless phrases denouncing bribery and corruption in public life.—New York Sun.

President Roosevelt's message confirms the impression that the anti-election policy of "stand pat" prevails and that no tariff or currency legislation is to be expected at the present.—New York Herald.

President Roosevelt finds abundant warrant in precedents and in existing conditions for recognizing the Republic of Panama as the only way of solving the problem of getting an isthmian canal without further delay. But he fails to give or even to suggest any reason why the United States should pay to a junta or to anybody else in Panama the great sum of \$10,000,000 in addition to a yearly rental of \$250,000 and all the other benefits conferred.—New York World.

The message of the President is an excellent document from the Administration's point of view. It is a campaign literature from beginning to end. It opens with a dissertation on the achievements of the Administration in the regulation of trusts. It closes with a thoroughly disingenuous defense of the course of the Government in the case of Panama. Between these extremes are the usual summaries of department and bureau reports, with very few recommendations of legislation, because Senator Hanna has ordered that the party shall "stand pat," and it would not be consistent with this to advise Congress that certain things ought to be done.—Philadelphia Record.

A President's message, is what events make it. The chief event of the past year in the domain of Governmental action is the recognition of the Panama Republic and all that it involves. The chief interest of President Roosevelt's third annual message, therefore, centers in its discussion of this question. Outside of this topic the chapters are of less moment than those of his previous messages, because the events are less vital and vivid. "The large issues are great—the trust question, Cuba, the Philippines and so on—are substantially settled. The history is made. The acts are completed. The references are not controversial but conclusive.—Philadelphia Press.

It is shown very plainly by the President that Colombia is wholly unable to maintain order on the Isthmus without the armed intervention of the United States. That being the case, the opponent of the new treaty will have something of a difficult task. We fancy to show that it is our duty to uphold Colombia, and especially after that country has treated us so contemptuously.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

The President discusses many topics in the elaborate message which he sent to Congress yesterday. Some of them are comparatively of little importance. If the President had ignored them entirely his message would not have lacked in completeness and comprehensiveness. The event of greatest interest to the nation since Mr. Roosevelt's message to Congress twelve months ago is the revolution in the Isthmus of Panama, the recognition of the revolutionary government by the United States, and the negotiation of a treaty between the Republic of Panama and the United States whereby the latter secures concessions for an interoceanic canal across the Isthmus.—Baltimore Sun.

In a Lighter Vein.

Strange But True.

We're ready to criticize errors abroad. When errors at home should be righted. Our own sins are small, or not noticed at all. Fault-finding is always far-sighted.—Philadelphia Record.

The Proper Place.

Editor—Oh, yes; I'll publish your poem. Ethel—How good of you! And in what part of your paper will you put it?
Editor—I'll put it in right next to reading matter.—Judge.

A Provident Mind.

He-I think I'll go and speak to your father at once. He can't do more than kick me out. She-I think a pity to risk it, dear, in that good suit.—Life.

Insurgents.

Mr. Plane—You don't hear much nowadays about the Filipino insurgents.
Mrs. Plane (see Kipling, of Boston)—Gracious! William, will you never learn to avoid that barbarous word "insurgents"? You mean "gentlemen," of course.—Philadelphia Press.

Civil.

"Aren't you the man who ran away with my luggage?"
"No, sir, daughter."
"But you never sent the horse back!"—New York Telegram.

Strap-Hangers.

Roderick—The paper says there are microbes clinging to the straps in the street cars.
Van Alstede—If not, I never knew microbes were so much like human beings.—Chicago News.

His Trip.

On the trolley car of love
See Conductor Cupid;
Mixes transfers, pockets fares,
Really seems quite stupid.

When the journey's near its end
Same old words are spoken:
"All out—take the car ahead!"
All engagements broken.

McAlaughlin Wilson in Brooklyn Life.

JAPAN MAY BE ASKED TO EXPLAIN ATTACK

Admiral Evans Investigating Assault on American Seamen Shipwrecked on Boto Tobago.

Japan may be asked to explain an attack made upon shipwrecked American seamen from the steamer Benjamin Seawall, by natives of the Island Boto Tobago, a Japanese dependency.

Admiral Evans, commanding the Asiatic station, has directed the Navy Department, has sent the gunboat Annapolis to Tamsui, Formosa, to investigate the wrongs of the shipwrecked sailors, and will report to the State Department whether he thinks Japan should be asked for an explanation.

An account of the sufferings of the American sailors is given in a letter from Lieutenant Commander Denfield, of the cruiser Don Juan de Austria, received at the Navy Department. This cruise picked up three Japanese sailors who were on the wrecked vessel.

Three days out from Singapore the Benjamin Seawall was struck by a typhoon and lost all its masts. The crew embarked in small boats. Aoki, the Japanese who told the story to the crew of the Don Juan de Austria, says he was in a boat with several Japanese seamen, several Japanese seamen, an American negro, a Russian seaman, the third mate and his wife, and the chief officer.

When the small boat neared the shore, savage natives boarded the small boat, stole all the valuables the shipwrecked crew had, seized the boat, and left the unfortunate to drown. Several of the crew, including the third mate and his wife, perished. The others swam to shore and were rescued after remaining in hiding five days.

LONDON WAS BATHED IN A SEA OF MUD

LONDON, Dec. 3.—London ran with mud yesterday. These were rivers of mud in the streets and fountains of mud in the air. There seemed to be keen rivalry between the rain which came down pitilessly and the mud which spurted up incessantly. The policemen were mere pillars of mud, and the shop windows were spattered so thickly that one could hardly see the wares displayed inside. Even the habits of London streets, such as the policemen and omnibus conductors, declared they had never seen mud in such profusion.

SHEPHERD WAS KILLED BY ROYAL GAMEKEEPER

King Alfonso, of Spain, Grieved by Incident of His Hunt, Returns to Palace.

MADRID, Dec. 3.—During a royal shooting excursion near Madrid yesterday a shepherd was killed by a gamekeeper's gun.

The incident gave rise to several grave rumors here. One report had it that the victim bore a grudge against a member of the king's staff and aimed his gun at this member. A gamekeeper seeing this, shot the shepherd while the latter was loading his carbine.

The King was much affected by the incident and returned to the city immediately. King Alfonso had arrived in Madrid his aide de camp proceeded to the civil chamber, where the cabinet was sitting, and Premier Maura returned with him to the palace.

Later the foregoing version of the shooting was officially confirmed.

EXPULSED MIDSHIPMAN GETS REAPPOINTMENT

Hugh O. Fry, of North Carolina, Goes Back to Naval Academy.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Dec. 3.—Hugh O. Fry, of North Carolina, who was dismissed from the fourth class of midshipmen last September for insubordination and for an assault upon a negro waiter by throwing a glass at him while at dinner one day, has been reappointed to the Naval Academy. The appointment was made through his Congressman W. W. Kitchen of North Carolina.

The Naval Academy authorities have received orders to give Fry a special examination, and if he is successful he will be reinstated at the Academy on his old footing. When Fry left Annapolis he said: "You'll hear from me again." He has worked hard for his reappointment since.

For an assault upon the waiter Fry was quartered on the prison ship Santee for two months and upon his release was reported by Superintendent Brownson for breaking the Academy regulation by being absent without permission and was finally dismissed. This is the third time Fry has been appointed. He "bided" after his entrance to the Academy three years ago.

RED CROSS WOMEN GIVE \$1,000 TO TYPHOID CITY

PITTSBURG, Pa., Dec. 3.—The women of the general committee of the First Pennsylvania Auxiliary of the Red Cross yesterday voted \$1,000 to aid the stricken town of Butler. The sum voted was a balance remaining from the auxiliary will fund Butler and report Friday.

CUBANS MOURN MACCO.

HAVANA, Dec. 3.—Cubans in a national holiday yesterday commemorated the seventh anniversary of the death of General Macco. He was also the anniversary of the death of General Gomez's eldest son, who was Macco's aide.

CARNEGIE GIFT REFUSED.

WINSTED, Conn., Dec. 3.—Andrew Carnegie has offered to give the town of Winsted, Conn., a public library building, on condition that the town provide a site and maintain the library. A similar offer to North Canaan has been refused.

POISONED BY OFFERS.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 3.—Dr. B. F. Brackson, a physician of this city, died here yesterday of poisoning.

When taken into custody last night he said he had eaten nothing but supper.

GERMAN ARMY OFFICERS MUCH TOO EXTRAVAGANT

General Von der Goltz Severely Condemns Increasing Luxury as Leading to Evil Results.

BERLIN, Dec. 3.—The December number of the "Deutsche Revue" contains an article by General Baron von der Goltz, commander of the First Army Corps, and the reorganizer of the Turkish army, condemning the increasing luxury among German army officers.

The general says a false standard of outward show and expensive living prevails among the officers. Poor officers, he declares, should be proud of their poverty, and consider it dishonorable to make a show at the expense of others. Besides urging the abolition of the custom of wearing expensive gloves, shoes and equipment, General von der Goltz thinks officers' expenditures can be reduced by putting an end to the practice of giving elaborate banquets. He says that with the exception of the celebration of the Emperor's birthday, only two or three official celebrations in the year are necessary.

That these banquets sometimes become drunken carousals is shown by the case this week at Posen of Lieutenant Roos, of the Forty-sixth Regiment. This officer after a banquet struck a sergeant named Reichelt, and a court-martial has dismissed him from the army.

GOV. CURTIN'S WIDOW DIES OF APOPLEXY

Aged Woman Expires Suddenly While Sitting at Luncheon.

BELLEFOUNTE, Pa., Dec. 3.—Mrs. Catherine I. Curtin, widow of War Governor Andrew G. Curtin, died suddenly of apoplexy at her home here yesterday.

Mrs. Curtin was out shopping early in the afternoon, and at the time said to a friend that she felt unusually well and enjoyed the cold weather.

She went home and while at luncheon about 2 o'clock was stricken with apoplexy and died in less than an hour.

Mrs. Curtin was eighty-four years old and was a daughter of Dr. W. W. Wilson. She was a highly cultivated woman. Four children survive—William W. Curtin, of Philadelphia; Mrs. George F. Harris, Mrs. M. Burnett, and Mrs. Breeze.

MAD EJECTS MISTRESS AND LOCKS THE DOOR

Quaker City Servant's New Method of Asserting Her Authority Followed by Her Arrest.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 3.—Mistresses, obey your servants! This, according to Mrs. Fizzie McCarthy, of 336 Ludlow Street, is the maxim sought to be enforced upon her by her maid-of-all-work, Nora Quinn.

As Mrs. McCarthy told her story in the court of Magistrate Lukens Nora glared at her from beneath a towering pompadour.

"I have been greatly deceived in Nora," said the mistress. "She seemed to like the children, the work and the house. I found cause to doubt her admiration for the first two, but I have no doubt about her love for the house. She cared so much for it that she put me out of it and locked the door to keep herself in possession."

"Before she ejected us she struck my seven-year-old son, Sylvester, a hard blow on the head. I have a restaurant on Market Street, below Thirty-ninth, and it is necessary to have some one in the house during my absence."

Constable Toner told of his successful assault upon the citadel of Nora after Mrs. McCarthy had failed to dislodge her.

The deposed queen of the kitchen was held in \$300 bail for court.

ARCHBISHOP APPOINTED FOR SEE OF MILWAUKEE

Dispatch From Rome Says Bishop Messmer Is Katzer's Successor.

NEW YORK, Dec. 3.—A private cable dispatch received here announces that Bishop Sebastian Gebhard Messmer, of Green Bay, Wis., has been appointed Archbishop of Milwaukee, to succeed the late Archbishop Katzer. Before his elevation to the bishopric, Monsignor Messmer was pastor of St. Peter's Church in Newark, N. J., and was also a professor in Seton Hall Seminary. He taught many of the prominent priests in New York.

DUKE OF MANCHESTER STEADILY RECOVERING

TANDERGREE, Ireland, Dec. 3.—The last report received here regarding the Duke of Manchester, who has been ill with Bright's disease at a London sanitarium, is that his condition is favorable, and he is shortly to be well.

The duke's wife, the former Miss Zimmern of Cincinnati, Ohio.

FIGHTS FOR MILLIONS.

GLENS FALLS, N. Y., Dec. 3.—William Hubbell Moore yesterday began a contest to obtain a large portion of the estate of his grandfather, William H. Moore, a millionaire lumberman, who died here recently.

Brackett, the attorney, protested the probate of the will, which gives young Moore a large sum. Undue influence is all that is claimed.

BANKRUPT LIFE.

TILBURY, Ontario, Dec. 3.—Mr. McNaughton, manager of the Merchants' National Bank here, has committed suicide by shooting himself through the heart with a revolver.

Known for a long time as a reason is

NOT A WOMAN-HATER IS LORD KITCHENER

His Tender Care of His Old Nurse Admired as Proof—His Recent Bad Luck.

LONDON, Dec. 3.—Though Lord Kitchener has never married, and for this reason has gained the reputation of being a woman-hater, this accusation is very unjust. One of his best friends, who knows him intimately, recently said of him that though he does not "wear his heart upon his sleeve," he has a heart, and a warm one, too.

"The man who follows through life the woman who nursed him as a child, who never misses an opportunity of being old nurse, is not heartless; and if he has hesitated at the lottery of marriage, he is not the only brave man who has shrunk from the edge of that precarious cliff. No; it is a contradiction of all the laws of human nature to suppose that from a being so gifted there has been left out that supreme gift of a very serious nature, and is not said to be healing as fast as had been expected."

When Queen Victoria, spoke of his first visit to her at Balmoral, she said: "They say he hates women; I can only say he was very nice to me."

The recent accident which happened to Lord Kitchener, when he was thrown from his horse in India, seems to have been of a much more serious nature than at first reported. Of course, his life is in no danger, but, due to overwork, his general health was poor previous to his accident, and the fracture of his leg is of a very serious nature, and is not said to be healing as fast as had been expected.

Altogether the Sirdar seems to have met with a streak of bad luck, as the present is the second mishap which he has encountered this year. The earlier one was of no nearly serious character. It looked to possess ugly enough possibilities, however, at the moment, for his ponies on the road between Ismail Khan and Tonk ran away with him and whirled his conveyance over a small ravine. Fromunately he was able to jump clear of the tonga as it was swung off the road.

These two accidents, coming so close together, have served to recall the fact that Lord Kitchener is a bachelor, and may have suggested to some the question of succession to his viceroyalty. Should he not marry, then the title would pass to whichever of his two brothers survive him or to the male heirs of the one entitled to succeed.

KAISER ORDERS YACHT TO THE MEDITERRANEAN

Will Cruise in Southern Waters if Doctors Find Italian Climate Beneficial to Him.

BERLIN, Dec. 3.—Emperor William, who now takes daily walks outdoors at Potsdam, has ordered the imperial yacht Hohenzollern to be placed in readiness for a cruise in the Mediterranean, but no date has been set for her departure.

It is understood his majesty will embark on the yacht at some Italian port if his physicians approve of such a trip after watching the effect of the southern climate upon him. It is stated the Emperor will make his appearance at hunting parties at Goehrdt on December 17 and 18, although it is not supposed he will participate in the shooting.

THRASHING MACHINE RAN NEWSPAPER PRESS

Editor and Community Relieved by Ready Wit of Ingenious Citizen.

FREEHOLD, N. J., Dec. 3.—The gas engine which runs the "Transcript" plant was out of order on last press day and skilled machinists were unable to make it go. Almost at the last hour Richard T. Forman was called in, because when he applies his mind to a knotty question something has got to come.

"Why," said he, "I've got a traction engine that we use principally to run thrashing machines, and we'll run her up here behind the office, rig a belt to the press, and there you are."

"This was done, and an edition of "Transcripts" was thrashed out, to the joy of the whole office and the edification of the community."

JUSTICE BROWN ACTIVE IN SPITE OF ALL RUMORS

Friends of Justice Henry B. Brown, of the United States Supreme Court, will doubtless hear with interest the recent alarming reports of the jurist's falling eyesight. His colleagues on the bench were surprised to read in an evening paper on Saturday that Justice Brown had not been able to keep up with his duties at the court.

Indeed, he has shown that Justice Brown attended every session of the court last week, as usual, handed down a batch of opinions on Monday, and had a spirited discussion with Chief Justice Fuller in the course of the hearing in a pending case on another day. These evidences of Justice Brown's active participation in affairs are not taken as bearing out the recent reports.

GREATEST SUGAR CARGO.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 3.—The big British tramp steamer Knight Errant from Java for Boston, passed in yesterday, having on board 11,000 tons of Java sugar, the largest cargo of sugar ever carried.

THIEVES LOOT PESTHOUSE.

FORT WAYNE, Dec. 3.—The city pesthouse was burglarized Sunday night of everything conveniently portable, including the bedding. Until recently the house has been occupied by smallpox patients.

WILL FORCE MEN TO VOTE.

MADRID, Dec. 3.—A law compelling men to vote in part of the legislature the new cabinet intends to introduce.

COURTS AND CAPITALS OF THE OLD WORLD

Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria in Bad Odor at St. Petersburg After Quarrel With Czar.

By the MARQUISE DE FONTENAY.

Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria has quarreled with the Czar, and is in bad odor at St. Petersburg. Indeed, it is this that makes the retention of his throne of Bulgaria a well-nigh impossible task, and that makes him anxious to abdicate in favor of his ten-year-old boy, who is the godson of Emperor Nicholas.

It seems that Dr. Danev, who was prime minister of Bulgaria until recently, concluded a secret arrangement with Count Lamsdorff, the Russian minister of foreign affairs, by the terms of which the ports of Varna and of Bourgas were to be leased to Russia, and a Russian general was to be appointed as Bulgarian minister of war, the idea being, of course, to facilitate the Muscovite advance on Constantinople. By way of a preliminary, Premier Danev undertook to nominate at once two of the Bulgarian officers implicated in the kidnapping of Prince Alexander, and who had been forced on that account to flee to Russia, as chief of staff and as commander of the first army corps.

Dismissed His Premier.

When, however, Prince Ferdinand heard of this, he pledged which the premier had given without his knowledge or sanction, he at once realized that the fulfillment thereof would antagonize Austria, Germany, Italy and England, as well as Turkey, against him. Accordingly he dismissed Dr. Danev, appointed General Petroff prime minister in his stead, informed Count Lamsdorff that it was impossible for him or his government either to fulfill Danev's promises or to consider himself bound thereby, and recalled the Bulgarian envoy from St. Petersburg for having dared to betray the king's confidence. Without his, the prince's, knowledge.

Naturally, great indignation prevails at the court of St. Petersburg, and when it is recalled that Prince Alexander of Battenberg was compelled to abdicate the throne of Bulgaria because he had incurred the enmity of the late Emperor, Alexander II, it will be readily understood that Prince Ferdinand, with Russia against him, is, to say the least, precarious.

Two "Causes Celebres."

Two "causes celebres" have just been recalled by announcements in the English newspapers. The one is that of the birth of a son ten days ago to Captain and Mrs. Laycock, the young mother being formerly the wife of the Marquis of Downshire, who obtained a divorce from her about eighteen months or so ago, Captain Laycock being the co-respondent in the case. The captain, who is a man of great wealth, of reputation as a sportsman, and who was twice mentioned in the dispatches while serving in the Indian Army, was under General Franch, was best man at the wedding of the young Duke of Westminster. He has often been in this country, and was here, notably on board his big full rigged steam yacht "The Wanderer" the time of Lord Dunsany's endeavor to lift the America Cup.

The other "cause celebre" recalled is the Beauchamp divorce case. It may be recalled that Sir Reginald Beauchamp obtained a divorce from his wife, Lady Violet, a wealthy Glasgow member of parliament of the name of Watt being the co-respondent. The suit was followed by a divorce from Mrs. Watt for the dissolution of her marriage.

Mrs. Watt Wins.

Subsequently Mrs. Watt obtained possession of some letters written by Lady Violet Beauchamp, in which the latter intimated that she had attempted to poison her, and imputed all sorts of infamies to her, never dreaming, of course, that she would see the letters in question, which were of a confidential nature and addressed to Mr. Watt. The jury gave a verdict in favor of Mrs. Watt, ordering Lady Violet, who is the only daughter of the fifth Earl of Roden, to pay \$25,000 damages and costs.

Lady Violet declining to pay, Mrs. Watt instituted bankruptcy proceedings against her, as being a single woman, whereupon Lady Violet has now married a second time, and has thus far further attempts on the part of Mrs. Watt to recover her damages, a suit which she has taken to the law to bankrupt a married woman.

From now on, therefore, Lady Violet Beauchamp must be known as Lady Violet Watt, and in London there is a good deal of amusement, not to say glee, over the fact that the "most potent" of the better of Mrs. Watt. For although the latter is the much injured party and is one deserving of sympathy, yet in cases where an aristocrat is entitled, is engaged in any dispute or fight with a person of inferior rank, the former can always be sure that the members of his order will espouse his cause.

The Stanley Case.